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JUDGE PATENT FIRM

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No. : 9/682,627
Applicant : Masakazu KARITA
Filed : October 1, 2001
Tech. Cntr./Art Unit : 3736
Examiner : Brian Scott Szmal

Confirmation No. 2280

OFFICIAL

Docket No. : 31.001-AG
Customer No. : 29453

I hereby certify that this
correspondence is being
facsimile-transmitted to the
Patent and Trademark Office,
fax no. (703) 872-9306
on June 21, 2004.
James W. Judge
Reg. No. 42,701
Signature *[Signature]*

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Sir:

In response to the Office action of January 21, 2004 reconsideration of the above-identified patent application, amended as follows, is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.